

SENATE BILL 3470

By Burks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
relative to education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. In order to ensure a system of education that will enable the children of Tennessee to succeed in a global economy, there is created a special committee to study the New Wisconsin Promise program. The committee shall be known as the Committee to Study Education Innovation for the 21st Century, herein referred to as "the committee."

SECTION 2. The committee is charged to study the New Wisconsin Promise program and such similar programs that seek to ensure a quality education for every student by raising achievement levels for all students and closing the achievement gaps between economically disadvantaged students, students of color, and their peers.

SECTION 3. The committee is charged to study, receive testimony, deliberate upon and make recommendations for public policy designed to provide that every Tennessee child graduates with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in the 21st century global society.

SECTION 4. The committee shall consist of six (6) members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house, and six (6) members of the senate, appointed by the speaker of the senate.

SECTION 5. The committee shall be convened by the legislative member with the most years of continuous service in the general assembly and, at its organizational meeting, shall elect from among its legislative membership, a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee may deem necessary.

SECTION 6. Members of the committee shall serve without compensation. All legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the general

assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the 106th general assembly.

SECTION 7. The committee shall report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the 106th general assembly by February 1, 2009, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.